- Chennai-Bangalore-Mangalore
- Chennai-Tuticorin

As per the information received from GAIL and RGTIL, all these pipelines are expected to be completed by 2012-13.

Projects undertaken by PSUs in petroleum sector

1338. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian public sector and other large companies should be encouraged to compete for execution of Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) projects which are on the anvil in UAE, and other Middle-East region with 2009 being the most difficult year in the world economy due to global recession and shortage of liquidity;

(b) whether Indian companies' proven expertise in these fields be fully utilized through competing and getting such assignments as EPC projects involve contracts for designing the installations, procuring the necessary material, engineering the ongoing construction and finally commissioning; and

(c) during 2008, the number of foreign projects executed by PSUs in Petroleum Industry and foreign exchange earned thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Engineers India Limited (EIL) provides consultancy for hydrocarbon and petrochemical projects on EPC mode. Most projects in UAE and other countries in the Middle East region are executed on EPC basis, with estimated cost of about US$ 1 billion. EIL has so far not carried out an EPC project abroad. Recognising possible EPC project execution opportunities in the region, EIL had joined M/s Tecnimont SPA, Italy in 2007 to form a Joint Venture Company. This Joint Venture Company was mandated to work in the UAE/Middle East region for executing EPC projects.

The year 2008-09 saw unprecedented recession and downturn in the world economy when the crude and gas prices plummeted to low levels. This made several of ongoing Hydrocarbon projects unviable leading to slowdowns and some of the new projects were even shelved. As a result of above liquidity shortage, Tecnimont-EIL Joint Venture Company could not start its EPS business in the UAE. However, many projects are under revival stage at present. EIL is restarting its operations for bidding for EPC projects in Middle East.

(b) EIL has the requisite skills and experience for carrying out basic engineering, detailed engineering, procurement, construction and commissioning of Hydrocarbon and Petrochemical Projects on EPC mode of execution. EIL has already executed to-date 16 EPC contracts, for Onshore and Offshore Projects in India.

(c) EIL is engaged in rendering PMC and consultancy services for overseas clients and is currently working in Algeria and Abu Dhabi. Amount of foreign exchange earned as professional fee from Overseas Operations during the Finance Year 2008-09 was equivalent of Indian Rupees 121.43 corers.

Fire in IOC depot at Jaipur

1339. SHRIMATI RENUBALA PRADHAN:
SHRI MANGALA KISAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for recent fires at Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) depot Jaipur;

(b) the other previous cases of oil depot fires during the last three years;

(c) whether Government plans to protect oil depots in Odisha alongwith all depots in the country; and

(d) whether Government would hold an enquiry and fix responsibility for such a loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (d) A seven member inquiry committee under the chairmanship of Shri M.B. Lal, Technical Member (P&NG), Appellate Tribunal for Electricity and Ex-Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited has been constituted by the Ministry on 31.10.2009 to inquire into the causes of the incident of fire at IOC depot, Jaipur and to suggest remedial measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents. The committee will submit its report within 60 days. Preliminary findings have indicated that there was massive leakage of Motor Spirit (MS) from the valve of one of the tank, which let formation of vapour cloud. Spark from an unknown source resulted in explosion of the vapour cloud, which started the fire in all the 11 tanks of the depot.

(b) During the last three years, there has been no major fire in oil depots of public sector oil companies.

(c) There is an existing mechanism to ensure the safety at all oil depots of public sector oil companies in the country, including Odisha, which includes regular safety audits to ensure, adherence to the safety norms prescribed by OISD Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO), State Pollution Control Boards, etc. Further, in order to take preventive steps so as to avoid such incidents in future, the Ministry convened a meeting on 3.11.209, to review the safety and security at oil and gas installations in the country, which was attended by the Chief Executive Officers of all public and major private oil companies having installations in the country.

Distribution of LPG in rural areas

1340. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: